

Message Text

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TAGS: EAID, EGEN, OCON, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD MINISTERIAL: RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES

REF: PARIS 17574

1. AT THIS LATE DATE BEFORE MINISTERIAL WE WILL NOT SEEK
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MAJOR REVISION IN SECRETARIAT PAPER C(78)90 OR IN PARAGRAPHS IN ANNOTATED AGENDA DEALING WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WE SHOULD INSIST, HOWEVER, THAT TO AVOID DEBATE OVER SPECIFICS AT MINISTERIAL, SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE REDRAFTED TO ELIMINATE PROPOSALS FOR OECD INITIATIVES FOR GLOBAL DISCUSSION OF DC/LDC ENERGY COOPERATION AND FOR A COORDINATED APPROACH TO INVESTMENT IN LDCS. AS CURRENTLY

DRAFTED THESE PROPOSALS WOULD STIR UNNECESSARY CONTROVERSY AMONG MINISTERS. IN ADDITION IN PARA 4 AND 5 BELOW WE OFFER OUR VIEWS ON DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION SECTION AND GENERAL FRAMEWORK, WHICH WE ASK SECRETARIAT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT FINAL VERSION OF PAPER WILL BE ISSUED ON SECGEN'S OWN AUTHORITY.

2. SINCE IT IS ALREADY UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS IS SECRETARIAT'S OWN DOCUMENT US COULD ACCEPT ITS TREATMENT OF LDC ENERGY ISSUE IF FINAL SENTENCE OF PARA 39 AND WORDS

"THROUGH DISCUSSION" IN PARA 23 ARE DROPPED AS REFTEL SUGGESTS IS POSSIBLE.

3. WORDING ON INVESTMENT IN LDCS BOTH IN C(78)90 AND IN ANNOTATED AGENDA CALL FOR SUPPORT OF FURTHER STUDY OF TOPIC BY OECD BUT ALSO IMPLY THAT STUDY WOULD LEAD TO "COORDINATED COLLABORATIVE APPROACH" OR "A PROGRAM OF ACTION." GIVEN THAT CONCEPTS INVOLVED ARE STILL SUBJECT TO CONSIDERABLE DEBATE AS WAS EVIDENT AT MAY 23 DAC MEETING WE BELIEVE IT IS PREMATURE TO BE LOOKING FORWARD TO SOME TYPE OF INTERNATIONAL EFFORT. WE WOULD WELCOME FURTHER STUDY AND BELIEVE BOTH REVISED PAPER AND ANNOTATED AGENDA SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO DROP IMPLICATION THAT STUDY WOULD NECESSARILY LEAD TO EVENTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT EFFORT. SECRETARIAT SHOULD BE AWARE OF OUR STRONG AND CONSISTENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSITION (SEE STATE 130035) THAT ISSUES RELATED TO LDC INVESTMENT QUESTION HAVE NOT BEEN ADVANCED TO POINT WHERE ANYTHING MORE THAN STUDY CAN BE CONTEMPLATED.

4. IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION SECTION THERE IS REOCCURRING ASSERTION THAT SOON TO BE ISSUED STATISTICS OF DAC MEMBER AID PERFORMANCE WILL "CAST DOUBT ON THEIR DETERMINATION" TO FULFILL PAST COMMITMENTS TO INCREASE AID. 1977 ODA PERFORMANCE SIMPLY NOT A MEASURE OF DAC MEMBER DETERMINATION TO CARRY OUT COMMITMENTS MADE JUST LAST JUNE AT CIEC AND LAST OECD MINISTERIALS. CLEARLY PUBLICATION OF STATISTICS WILL BE OCCASION FOR CRITICISM BY PROPONENTS OF LARGER AID PROGRAMS BUT DOCUMENT SHOULD PROVIDE BETTER DEFENSE OF DAC PERFORMANCE BY NOTING ACTUAL CHANGES IN PERFORMANCES (SUCH AS VERY LARGE INCREASE IN US COMMITMENTS FROM 1975 TO 1976) AND NOT JUST MAKE REFERENCE TO EXPRESSIONS OF INTENT.

5. ALSO DOCUMENT (PARA 36) ASKS MINISTERS TO "ENDORSE PAPER'S BROAD APPROACH" FOR USE IN DISCUSSION WITH LDCS AND FOR CONSIDERING JOINT MEASURES. SECRETARIAT SHOULD KNOW THAT, WHILE SUGGESTED GENERAL APPROACH (PARA 3) CON-

TAINS COMMENDABLE ELEMENTS OF A NORTH/SOUTH POLICY, WE
DEFINITELY DO NOT ACCEPT IT AS THE SOLE FRAMEWORK TO BE
USED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN THE OECD OR WITH LDCS. VANCE

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